Recovery of over-charged amount from drug companies

†*570. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN :

MISS MABEL REBELLO :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount recovered by Government under the head of over-charging of prices of medicines on 10th August, 2001 from various pharmaceutical companies;

(b) whether it is a fact that CIPLA has already paid over-charged amount of Rs. 100 crores claimed by NPPA;

(c) the details regarding the balance amount to be recovered from various pharmaceutical companies under the head of over-charging; and

(d) by when Government would recover the amount from all the companies ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA) : (a) An amount of Rs. 348.41 lakhs has been recovered from 10 companies on account of overcharging with reference to prices fixed under the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Action against companies who have over-charged is taken under the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995. Around 100 show-cause notices have been issued to various companies and the cases are at various stages of examination.

Career Advancement Scheme in NCERT

*571. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI :

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the NCERT has implemented Career Advancement Scheme of UGC for its academic staff;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether the scheme includes promotion of Readers as Professors in affiliated colleges of universities;

(c) whether the NCERT has promoted its Readers as Professors in Regional Colleges of Education, redesignated as Regional Institute of Education, which are affiliated to various universities; and

(d) if so, whether the NCERT has violated UGC rules in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

Production of pulses in Andhra Pradesh

* 572. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh is one of the leading States in the production of pulses;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the area in which pulses are being grown;

(c) whether Government have taken any initiative to expand the area of pulse production in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what steps Government have taken to maximize the yield level of pulses in that State ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Andhra Pradesh is one of the major pulses producing States. The State-wise area, and production of pulses during last three years is given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The Government of India has suggested to State of Andhra Pradesh to expand the area under pulses under the following categories :—

(i) Popularisation of Black gram (urad) in coastal region of Andhra Pradesh.